



Board of Education Regular Meeting

Monday, November 7, 2022 7:00 PM

Board Meeting Room
Administrative Offices
137 B Glenwood Road
Clinton, CT 06413

Attendance Taken at 7:00 PM.

Jason Adler: Present
Erica Gelven: Present
Michael Hornyak: Present
Peter Nye: Present
Alan Samet: Present
Jack Scherban: Present
Catherine Staunton: Present

1. Opening Exercises

Also in attendance were Superintendent Maryann O'Donnell, Assistant Superintendent Marco Famiglietti, Business Manager Carolyn Dickey, and Student Representatives to the Board Abel Rodriguez, Caroline King, and Sean Davis. Participants were reminded that the meeting was being recorded.

A. Roll call

B. Pledge of Allegiance

All stood for the pledge.

2. Public participation/recognition

There was no public participation.

Minutes - Approval - Regular Meeting of October 17, 2022

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the regular meeting of October 17, 2022. Carried with a motion by Michael Hornyak and a second by Alan Samet.

Jason Adler: Yea
Erica Gelven: Yea
Michael Hornyak: Yea
Peter Nye: Yea
Alan Samet: Yea
Jack Scherban: Yea
Catherine Staunton: Yea
Yea: 7, Nay: 0

3.Communications

There were no communications.

4.Report of Student Representatives

The student representatives reported on various activities at each of the schools. A. Rodriguez reported that the Morgan girls soccer team won the shoreline conference championship with a score of 2-0. Veterans Day celebrations will take place district-wide on Friday, November 11. Dodge for a Difference will be held on November 23. Morgan's first Human Rights Day will be held on November 8. The Morgan Band had a successful concert on October 25 and students are starting to rehearse for the annual musical, Damn Yankees. Seniors are in the midst of deciding which post-secondary school to attend and the Halloween Day costumes were creative and fun.

C. King reported on Eliot's events, including Spirit Day, an assembly on mental health, and celebrating Jared Eliot's birthday. She shared the educational focus of each grade and talked about student government's responsibilities. She also inquired whether the new dress code policy applied to Eliot and all schools in the district and M. O'Donnell indicated it did. C. King expressed that there was a question posed by an Eliot student about it and M. O'Donnell suggested she follow up with Principal LaLima and report back to the Board. Students raised an astounding \$10,700 during the Eliot Walk-A-Thon with Mrs. Duphily's class taking top honors.

The Board heard S. Davis' report on the Joel school. Progress reports for grades 1-4 came out the week of October 31. Students are utilizing a variety of programs including Mystery Science, Number Corner, and Geodes that focus on improving science, reading, and math skills. In support of mental health and wellness, Joel is using the Gizmo 4 Mental Health guide. Joel Family Math Night for grades 2, 3, and 4 is November 10.

5.Administrative Reports

A.Administrators, Program Directors and Teachers

1.General Update

B.Assistant Superintendent's Report

1.General Update

M. Famiglietti noted that Geodes programming in grades K-2 is supplementing phonics instruction at Joel. Morgan and Eliot will be holding parent/teacher conferences on November 17 and Joel will hold theirs in December. For the first time, all schools will be

using an online registration process. Parents are able to request virtual or in-person meetings. On November 17, A. Rodriguez and M. Famiglietti will be meeting with leaders in the community to support immigrant families by providing lists of resources as well as care packages. Joel Principal Guarascio and M. Famiglietti are meeting to review the bilingual program and measure progress. Initial reports are positive. A Clinton community conversation night was held on November 2 to provide information on resources available to students in distress including *Signs of Suicide*, *QPR Suicide Prevention* training, and *Gizmo 4 Mental Health*.

C. Business Manager's Report

1. Bills Payable

J. Scherban had a question regarding Wilson Language expenditures.

2. General Update

C. Dickey's office continues to work on the audit and the 2023-24 budget with focus right now on initial projections for budget drivers such as insurance, transportation, and salaries. She detailed her work with the auditors which should finish within the next month.

6. Superintendent's Report

A. School Meals Update

M. O'Donnell detailed a plan to spend excess funds in the Food Services account by extending free lunch for all students through January 31, 2023. Decisions will have to be made in January to evaluate the Food Services revenues and determine if free meals can be continued or to prepare for the return to paid meals. She thanked Food Service Director Jon Siciliano for his oversight and management.

B. General Update

A large amount of work is being done on the School Security & Safety Plan which has been submitted to the state as required by statute. A new communication program is being tested, enhanced tools are being utilized, and facilities are being reviewed again to determine any new needs.

The Superintendent has accepted a donation of \$500 from Sandy Hook Promise to be used by the Eliot Promise Team to support schoolwide activities and assemblies in furtherance of the Eliot Promise Team's mission and goals.

7. Reports of Board of Education Subcommittees and Special Committees

A. General Updates

J. Scherban reported on a Budget & Finance subcommittee meeting held earlier in the day. The subcommittee is working on a budget that will stay within the given parameters. He predicted a reduction in Debt Service and little change in the Capital Expenditure Budget. The Board will be asked before year-end to approve the subcommittee's plan.

8. First Reading of 2023 Board of Education Regular Meeting Schedule

Board members were given a draft of the 2023 regular meeting schedule. A second reading and adoption of this schedule will be on the next meeting agenda.

9. Discussion re: 2023-24 Draft Calendar

The Board received a draft of the 2023-24 school calendar. The calendar aligns with LEARN's regional calendar for next year for schools breaks and follows the general format of the current CPS calendar.

10. Personnel Information

Board members received a copy of the personnel update.

11. Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 7:44 PM. Carried with a motion by Catherine Staunton and a second by Jason Adler.

- Jason Adler: Yea
 - Erica Gelven: Yea
 - Michael Hornyak: Yea
 - Peter Nye: Yea
 - Alan Samet: Yea
 - Jack Scherban: Yea
 - Catherine Staunton: Yea
- Yea: 7, Nay: 0

Michael Hornyak, Board Secretary

Allison Friday, Board Recorder